

# Spark Gap

Vol. 31, Issue 6, June 2014 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for thirty-one years*

## On Our MARC...

First I would like to thank Chris Frederick, KQ9Y, for all the work that he did on trying to figure out what was causing the interference on our repeater. I know that he spent a lot of time running around trying to find the source and getting it fixed. He also had the help of Steve, N9LC, Steve, K9DY and Jack, W8ISH. Together, they tried to figure out what the cause was. At this point, we still do not know what the interference was but for now it is gone and we are back to our PL Tone 151.4Hz. Thanks again for all the long hours and hard work that was done and for keeping us informed.

Second, I would like to thank all those that came out for the Strawberry Fest. We had over 20 members that came out to show support. While Kevin and Rusty were talking with people that would stop by and ask questions, we had Bruce and Steve on the radio's making contact with other hams and Ships. Yes, it was Museum Ship weekend. I know that Steve worked the USS Indianapolis and Bruce was in touch with a Ship berthed in Galveston. Every one there seemed to be enjoying the day. We couldn't have asked for a better day. I'm sure they had a few strawberries. Again thank you for all the hard work.

Next on our agenda is Field Day. The PIO team sent out 29 letters to public officials inviting them to stop by the EOC on June 28 or June 29<sup>th</sup> and see what Amateur Radio operators do. As of today, I have heard back from Doug Cox, Johnson County Sheriff and David Mann, Edinburgh Police Chief stating that they appreciate what we do and will be stopping by. It's a start. We are here to help them in times of disasters and we should get to know them and remind them that we are here.

Our June speaker has postponed his speaking as he had forgotten about a previous commitment that he signed up for a year ago. At this point, I'm working on a speaker but don't have one that has committed yet. I'm hoping July will be a better month for Steve in talking about Fox Hunting as this is one thing that Chris was trying to do with figuring out the repeater problem.

See you Saturday. Coffee will be on.

Jacki-KI6QOG  
President



## **BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:**

***WA9VBG-Sam Carter***

***W8ISH-Jack Parker***

***W9ELF-John Cheeley***



[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

## **FIELD DAY 2014 JOHNSON COUNTY**

**Location:** Johnson County Law Enforcement Center. E.O.C.  
1091 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131

**Talk-in:** 146.835 -- (PL 151.4) WA9RDF

Please plan on being part of this fun type exercise on Saturday & Sunday June 28 and 29, 2014. This annual event is open to all M.A.R.C. members, their families, friends and anyone HAM that would like to operate or just stop by for a visit. Field Day will be operating mainly from the E.O.C. and weather permitting outside the building. The purpose of this exercise is to make as many contacts as possible by using radios, antennas and other equipment that you would use during an actual emergency. This is a great opportunity to use the radios in the E.O.C. Radio Room and check out their performance.

Stay tuned to the M.A.R.C. Sunday Night Net for more details on exact times for set up and what will be needed for Field Day. As in the past the tradition of making DX contacts, friends and good food will continue.

..... Bob N9SIU

## WHITE RIVER FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL 2014



**The Gang .....**

### Strawberry Fest a Summer Success

Colorful tents, antennas and lots of ham radios made an attractive setting at the entrance of the White River Township Fire Department's Strawberry Festival. This was the 22 annual event featuring grilled food, strawberry shortcake, face painting, lots of fire trucks and enough MARC Amateur Radio Operators to staff any emergency. The festival is held at Sugar Grove Elementary on Smith Valley Road.

This was the best showing of club support and crowd interest we have ever had. Fourteen club members helped set up three tents, multiple masts, antennas and radios. The Field Day type setup took less than 90 minutes. A stellar effort by any measure. Everything was run off portable battery power.

Dozens of parents and children came by to ask about ham radio. A few even managed to operate for several minutes. Saturday, the W1AW special event stations were on the air as well as Ship Museum stations. There were plenty of good contacts for the pickings. Congressional candidate for the 9<sup>th</sup> district Bill Bailey spent an hour observing the HF operations, asking questions and enjoying the company of ham radio operators. "Camp Strawberry", as it's been dubbed, included HF stations operating on 17, 20 and 40 meters along with PSK31 and an active APRS and club repeater demo. Many thanks to all the MARC members and their families for coming by to support the Field Operation and the White River Township Fire Department.

-W8ISH



**More pics from the Strawberry Fest:**



**Mike & Bruce**



**Ron PSK**



**Bruce, Ken & Mike**



**Phil & Chris**



**Jacki explains Amateur Radio**



**Jack, Bailey & Ron**



This is Kenneth Barr, KD9ALA and his wife Marlys, KD9BHM with their new Elecraft KX3 All-Band/All-Mode Transceiver. They bought it at Dayton and brought the QRP All mode unit to the Strawberry Fest to demonstrate. Kenneth got his license at the One-Day Tech Class last February and upgraded to General. Marlys recently got her Tech license. Congratulations to both.

*Thanks goes to Jack W8ISH for such great photos.*

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**Among our members.....**

We heard that Eric Hagan, KC9UIK through Cindy that Eric is very ill. Please keep Eric in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Condolences to Linda Harshbarger, KC9GCH on the passing of her father on June 15, 2014.

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## IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR:



**June 28 & 29 ....**

**Johnson County Field Day Johnson County E.O.C., Franklin**



**July 12 .....**

**Indianapolis Hamfest Marion County Fair Grounds**

**Sept. 6 & 7 .....**

**Heartnut Festival Johnson County Park , Edinburgh**

**Sept. 27 .....**

**Greenwood H. S. Marching Band Invitational, Greenwood**



# Chasing DX

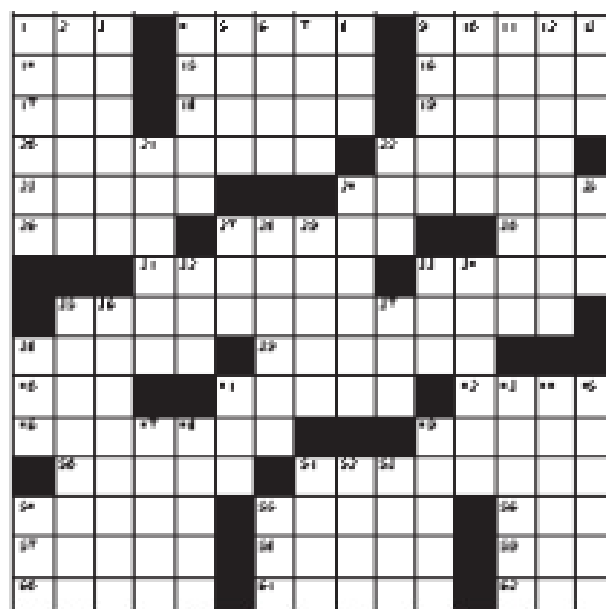
## Across

1. CH1 freq. units
4. HB land
9. Fourteen \_\_\_\_ (weight)
14. Enable, as a weapon
15. Quar
16. Signs
17. Expected
18. John Glenn's ride
19. "That \_\_\_\_ for the corner"
20. With 22, 33, 34, and 41 across - What year collection for 33 across
22. See 20-across
23. The 18 and 21 MHz bands?
24. "Is that really necessary?"
26. Newfangled rig (abbr.)
27. Work on GUIs and others
30. This began the J-day after 24-down
31. An ARRL section official in 1-land (abbr.)
33. All but KH<sup>6</sup> and KLJ
35. You need more than 999 for this award
38. Devarundi
39. One of the things Elmer do
40. School org
41. One place where the DX might be listening?
42. Heading 180 from NC
46. SH operator probably
49. Early radio part manufacturer
50. 1940's TV host, with Martin
51. Open wire (line)
54. Equipment made over, sometime
55. See 20-across
56. See 20-across
57. What many towns are made of

58. The word that explains a UK post office sign
  59. Digital 1st family
  60. Homebuds, on Field Day
  61. See 20-across
  62. Team heading to work PY from WE
- Down
1. "...no space \_\_\_\_"
  2. Immured, as a dipole (if not a buck)
  3. It moves with a signal
  4. What an amp also does in the shack
  5. Puffs with VOX
  6. What an unkeyed transmitter is
  7. Some are green, some black, some orange
  8. Give a call sign
  9. Nick's and time
  10. Chg. in charge of 43-down
  11. What a DX Peddler station spends most of the time doing
  12. Non-digital, in G-land

13. ID'd back ground job (remember?)
21. Howham party visitor on FD
22. C in FLand
24. A peak year in cycle 19
25. Some Ukraine postfixes
27. It's between the DSP and the speaker
28. How some IF antennas look
29. Listings for calling mail VHF users
32. MHz padcaster
33. There in Chik
34. How we connect, familiarly, if impactive
35. Like 38-down, but for (o)ther digital mode
36. Keep your rig well steady
37. A good signal report in ancient Rome
38. Speed on CW
41. Biggest non-smash war of radio in the early days
43. Awards for performance by ham inspectors?
44. Warm tubes and solder in, among other

45. Pomper
47. What a birdie in your RX sounds like!
48. G-land no W men
49. To run to p antenna support
51. Repeat it, it's part of PCO-land
52. 70 city
53. The part of a party we often
54. Use 3-D to write give out on of these
55. C in 1940's mobile home had



# Coffee Break Training

In this month's installment of Coffee Break Training, we continue to familiarize ourselves with the Disaster Assistance application process for those affected by a disaster. In this series, concluding with the December edition, we examine what happens when a 'Letter of Denial' is received. Even though FEMA encourages everyone to apply for assistance there are those occasions that FEMA guidelines may cause a denial of the application as received but it does not mean that a Denial Letter is not the end of the road. A Letter of Denial can be caused by a simple incomplete application, and there is an appeal process, outlined below. Here is a copy of the news release from FEMA Region V relating to the storms and disaster declaration from last year in Illinois that offers hope.

Objective: Overview of appeals process for FEMA Letter

## Denial of FEMA Assistance Offers Options for Appeal

### [Main Content](#)

Release date: June 17, 2013

Release Number: 4116-IL NR-056

AURORA, Ill. – A letter from FEMA denying federal disaster assistance may not be the final word. Applicants for disaster assistance should not be discouraged or disappointed if such a letter is received. Receipt of these letters does not necessarily mean “case closed.”

Many times the letter is received because more information is needed by FEMA. Illinois survivors of the April 16 to May 5 severe storms, straight-line winds and flooding have the right to appeal FEMA's decision about what assistance they can receive.

Survivors can appeal the amount or type of help provided, or any other decision about disaster assistance. Before asking for an appeal, however, applicants are urged to review the “Help After a Disaster” applicant's guide. The guide explains the different types of assistance that may be available and could answer questions about the appeal process. Each applicant receives a copy of the guide and it is available online at [www.fema.gov/help-after-disaster](http://www.fema.gov/help-after-disaster).

When making an appeal, applicants should explain in writing why they disagree with a decision. Include any new or additional documentation that would support an appeal. Be as specific as possible in the letter and include materials such as itemized receipts and contractor estimates.

When sending an appeal, remember to include:

- The federal declaration number, DR-4116-IL.
- Your FEMA nine-digit identification number.
- The applicant's name, place and date of birth, and the address of the damaged dwelling.

## 1920'S RADIO HUMOR



Answer to "Chasing DX" .....

C	P	S		H	A	I	T	I		C	A	R	A	T
A	R	M		E	N	D	E	D		O	M	E	N	S
D	U	E		A	T	L	A	S		I	S	P	A	R
E	N	T	I	T	I	E	S		O	N	A	L	L	
T	E	E	N	S					M	U	S	T	Y	O
S	D	R	S		D	O	H	C	I		I	G	Y	
				E	M	A	S	T	M		C	O	N	U
			D	X	C	C	C	H	A	L	L	E	N	G
W	A	T	T	S		A	D	V	I	S	E			
P	T	A			U	P	S	I	X		T	O	S	C
M	A	L	T	E	S	E					M	E	S	C
	R	O	W	A	N		B	A	L	A	N	C	E	D
R	A	V	E	R		M	O	D	E	S		A	N	D
S	T	E	E	L		G	R	E	A	T		R	T	L
T	E	N	T	S		B	A	N	D	S		S	S	E



# ARRL Contest Schedule

## June

14-16 June VHF

21 Kids Day (not 15 June!)

28-29 Field Day

## July

12-13 IARU HF World Championship

## August

2-3 August UHF

16-17 10 GHz & Up – Round 1

17 Rookie Roundup – RTTY September

13-15 September VHF

20-21 10 GHz & Up– Round 2

## October

11-12 EME - 2.3 GHz & Up

20-24 School Club Roundup

## November

1-3 Nov. Sweepstakes – CW

8-9 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz

15-17 Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone

## December

5-7 160 Meter

6-7 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz

13-14 10 Meter

21 Rookie Roundup–CW

**For more information on contesting please see the ARRL link:**

**<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>**

# HAMFESTS

## 07/12/2014 | [Indianapolis Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Indianapolis, IN

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Indianapolis Amateur Radio Association

**Website:** <http://indyhamfest.com>

## 08/09/2014 | [Angola Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Angola, IN

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Land of Lakes Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://www.llarc.org>

## 09/20/2014 | [Hancock ARC Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Greenfield, IN

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Hancock Amateur Radio Club of Hancock County

**Website:** <http://www.w9atg.org>

## 10/04/2014 | [Hoosier Hills Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Mitchell, IN

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Hoosier Hills Ham Club

**Website:** <http://www.w9qyq.org/hamfest>

## 11/15/2014 | [Indiana State Convention \(Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo\)](#)

**Location:** Fort Wayne, IN

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Sponsor:** Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

**Website:** <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>



# MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the THIRD SATURDAY of each month in the basement of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

See our website, [www.midstatehams.org](http://www.midstatehams.org), for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a HAM to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

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**WA9RDF**

**Repeater**

**146.835/**

**146.235 MHz**

**151.4 Hz PL Tone**

**Club Officers:**

**President: Jacki Frederick – KI6QOG**

**Vice President: Dave Daily – KB9LOT**

**Secretary: Rhonda Curtis– WS9H**

**Treasurer: Linda Harshbarger – KC9GCH**

**Repeater Trustee: Steve Brown – N9LC**

***Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS***

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***The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club***

***P.O. Box 836***

***Franklin, Indiana***

***46131***

***Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU***

***Please send your articles to my email [n9siu@yahoo.com](mailto:n9siu@yahoo.com) no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month***

